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Sadat expects shah surgery soon

Cairo (Combined Dispatches)—President Anwar Sadat visited the deposed Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, in his hospital suite yesterday and said afterward that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini can "shout to the end of the world" but Pahlavi will live permanently in Egypt.

Sadat said that Pahlavi, who arrived in Egypt from Panama Monday looking drawn and frail, was running a high fever and was being prepared for surgery, which will be done with the shah's American doctors participating.

Declaring that Islam preaches compassion and not Khomeini's brand of "vengeance and hatred," Sadat said that the shah will live permanently in exile in Egypt even if "I shall force it on him."

Sadat dismissed Iran's angry, threatening reaction to his offer of asylum for the ailing shah, saying, "They may shout until the end of the world. I shall never heed this."

As Sadat spoke, Iranian mobs at the occupied United States Embassy in Tehran chanted threats against him, and Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh denounced him as "a puppet of Israel and the United States."

Hardline Arab nations attacked Sadat for welcoming the shah. The pro-Syrian newspaper Al Sharq of Beirut, Lebanon, in a typical comment, said the shah's presence is a "grave security risk for Sadat, who will soon find that his isolation from his own people has deepened."

The Cairo newspaper Al Akhbar reported yesterday that the shah left Panama hurriedly because he had received "secret information" that the CIA was plotting to poison him in Panama. The newspaper said the poisoning would have been aimed at obtaining the release of the Tehran embassy hostages by making the Iranians' demands for the shah's extradition moot.

A CIA denial

A CIA spokesman in Washington, Kathy Pherson, denied the report, calling it "absolutely absurd."

Sadat was skeptical when asked about the report. "I don't read such stories. I deal with facts," he told reporters.

The Al Shaab newspaper of Egypt's small Socialist Labor Party, an anti-Sadat group, said the shah would be a "burden" for Egypt. "We do not welcome the shah here, to spare the Egyptian people the burden of his protection and security," it said.

The Egyptian leader spoke with reporters following a 15-minute visit with the shah in his 15-room suite at the heavily fortified Maadi armed forces hospital outside Cairo. The shah is suffering from an enlarged spleen, a condition resulting from a suspected spread of cancer.

Sadat said the shah "for sure" will undergo surgery by Egyptian doctors "and whomever he wants from his own (foreign) doctors."

Foreign doctors due

Asked if the surgery will be performed soon, Sadat replied, "Yes, but the whole thing is in the hands of the doctors. My doctors contacted the American and French doctors who treated him previously. Some of them will be arriving here, but the date of their arrival has not been fixed yet."

He did not identify the doctors. The newspaper Al Akhbar said that Dr. Michael DeBakey, the Houston, Tex., heart specialist, would arrive tomorrow. DeBakey's office in Houston would not comment.

A devout Moslem, Sadat reiterated that his invitation to the shah was rooted in Islam and in the debt of gratitude he said Egypt owed the shah for his aid during the 1973 Middle East war with Israel.

"True tradition of Islam"

"We are Moslems," Sadat said in a speech before a union of artists. "This is the true tradition of Islam. This is not the Islam that Khomeini is preaching there—vengeance, hatred and so on. But the shah will be living with his family among us here, among friends and among brothers."

Sadat said the shah came to Egypt's aid with 600,000 tons of oil during the 1973 October war after Libya reneged on a promise to provide fuel. "I only had the Shah of Iran to turn to," Sadat said.

"This is but one of the tons of things the shah has done for Egypt," Sadat said. His audience applauded him enthusiastically.